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Senators Urge Swift Action To Block Naming of Agents

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20 — The Select Committee on Intelligence has urged the Senate leadership to act soon on legislation that would make it a criminal offense to disclose the identities of undercover intelligence agents.

In a letter to Howard H. Baker Jr. of Tennessee, the Senate majority leader, and Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia, the minority leader, the committee unanimously asked the leadership to insure "that there be no further delay in bringing this vital legislation to the floor of the Senate for a debate and vote."

The letter noted that two weeks ago the Covert Action Information Bulletin published what it said were the names of 69 Central Intelligence Agency officers serving in 45 countries.